



## News Release

**United States Navy**

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### **SPAWAR Systems Center San Diego “Goes Live” With First Navy ERP Pilot**

**SAN DIEGO** — Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center San Diego (SSC San Diego) is the first of the Navy’s four Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) pilot programs to “go live.” Under an effort it calls “Project Cabrillo,” SSC San Diego government and contractor personnel have spent the past year planning use of commercial software for the Center’s business operations requirements, including all budget/financial and personnel processes. On June 27, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management) authorized the Center to proceed with the pilot to employ commercial information technology for asset management, procurement, human resource and financial management, strategic planning and program management. Integrating various business processes with storage of and access to common data is expected to provide dramatic improvement in the ability of Center personnel to manage resources efficiently.

After two months of integration testing and validation, the Center on July 2 began active use of the SAP software to run business operations. Over the next several weeks, various financial transaction areas will be phased in, beginning with procedures to accept new funding from sponsors and data entry on employee time and attendance. In about two weeks, all end-users of ERP will begin using the new system for tracking property, ordering supplies and establishing contracts, preparing project reports and financial statements.

More than 50 Navy civilian personnel, working generally one-on-one and in equal numbers with contractors from SSC San Diego’s ERP system integrator, PricewaterhouseCoopers, have been employed in planning and implementing Project Cabrillo. PricewaterhouseCoopers is the world’s largest professional services firm, and also the world’s largest system integrator of SAP software. Together the government-industry team executed a phased plan for substantial business process re-engineering at the Center and implementation of the SAP software, leading to “go live” authorization and initiation. The team selected seven SAP R/3 modules for implementation: Finance, Asset Management, Human Resources, Controlling, Project Systems, Sales and Distribution, and Material Management.

Since the new system will affect literally every Center employee, all their computers were upgraded with the designated Internet web browser to ensure compatibility with the web-based SAP. During the weeks immediately preceding and following “go live,” another 55 Center personnel have been pulled away from normal tasks to provide 40,000 employee-hours of in-house training in use of ERP to a large percentage of the Center’s 3,500 personnel, ranging from a few hours for those whose primary involvement with ERP will be entering personal time and attendance data; to about 30 hours for supervisors who approve various financial actions; to 70-75 hours for accountants, technicians and others involved in complex day-to-day financial operations.

ERP officials at SSC San Diego predict it will take one to several months to make a valid assessment of how the effort is working, but after two and a half years of planning, they are confident it will provide substantial long-range benefits to the organization.

SSC San Diego, one of the major Navy Working Capital Fund (NWCF) research, development and engineering centers, is the ERP pilot site for NWCF warfare center management. The other three pilot participants are Naval Air Systems Command, focusing on acquisition program management; Naval Sea Systems Command, studying regional maintenance workforce management; and Naval Supply Systems Command/Naval Air Systems Command, focusing on aviation supply chain/maintenance management.

SSC San Diego, under various names and organizational structures, has provided research, development, and engineering on Navy electronic and weapon systems since 1940. During that time, the Center has been a leader in management as well as project innovation--in integration of government-industry project teams, in contracting initiatives and in human resource management. In the latter area, SSC San Diego developed the U.S. Government's first Personnel Demonstration Project authorized under the Civil Service Reform Act in 1980.

For further information on ERP, please contact SSC San Diego Public Affairs Officer Tom LaPuzza at (619) 553-2724. For further information on the Center, please visit our web site at:

<http://www.spawar.navy.mil/sandiego/>